

# ARNOLD & PORTER

202.942.5000  
202.942.5999 Fax

555 Twelfth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20004-1206

RECEIVED  
OCT 03 2003  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

September 29, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/553,094  
Filed: April 18, 2000  
Inventors: Scott E. ANDERSEN *et al.*  
Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other  
Molecules Associated with Plants  
Atty. Docket: 16517.001/38-21(15503)B

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) are the following documents:

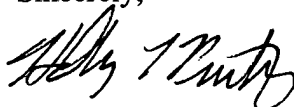
1. Request for Oral Hearing Before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences; and
2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

Please charge the statutory fee of \$280.00 for Appellants' Request for Oral Hearing to counsel's deposit account 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.001/15503B. A duplicate copy of this page is attached.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.001/15503B. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Sincerely,



David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)  
Holly Logue Prutz (Reg. No. 47,755)

Enclosures



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re application of:

Scott E. ANDERSEN *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/553,094

Filed: April 18, 2000

Title: **Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other  
Molecules Associated with Plants**

Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: Marjorie A. MORAN

Atty. Docket No.: 38-21(15503)B

Confirmation No.: 4263

**Request for Oral Hearing  
Before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Appellants hereby request an oral hearing before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in the appeal of the above-identified application.

Authorization to charge the official fee for this filing is given in the accompanying transmittal letter.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lawrence M. Lavin, Jr.*

Lawrence M. Lavin, Jr. (Reg. No. 30,768)  
by David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)  
Holly Logue Prutz (Reg. No. 47,755)

*by Holly Logue Prutz*

Date: September 29, 2003

MONSANTO COMPANY  
800 N. Lindbergh Boulevard  
Mailzone E2NA  
St. Louis, Missouri 63167  
Tel: 314-694-3602  
Fax: 314-694-9009

RECEIVED  
OCT 03 2003  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

09/29/2003 88ESHE1 00000125 502387 09553094  
280.00 DA